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May 25, 1999

Xavier McDonnell, Esq. Enforcement Division Office of the General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW, Room 659 Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 4798 - Buncombe County Republican Party and its

Treasurer, Gary S. McClure

Dear Mr. McDonnell:

Thank you for the recent transmission of the signed and accepted Conciliation Agreement in settlement of the claimed violations of the Federal Election Campaign Law. As you know from your review of the records, the violation of accepting campaign contributions in excess of the proper limits from the Randolph County Republican Executive Committee, was inadvertent and not originated by anyone in the Buncombe County Republican Party Committee. In addition, the maintaining of separate federal and non-federal accounts from July of 1997 through January of 1998, was the result of an attempt to remedy the situation by reporting federal and non-federal funds separately, based upon advice received by the then treasurer of the Buncombe County Republican Party from state officials. Because there were few expenditures and disbursements between July of 1997 and January of 1998, this inadvertent mistake will not require substantial amendments to the reports during such periods of time.

Please accept this explanation for inclusion in the record of these materials.

Sincerely

Robert B. Long, Jr.

RBLjr/fg